

CLAIMS:

1. An ink container comprising:
a housing having a chamber formed therein for receiving ink and a surface including an outlet passage communicating with the chamber and through which ink is dispensed; and
an air impermeable, non-porous seal member received in the outlet passage, said seal member comprising raised portions on a first surface and a second surface, wherein said surfaces are on opposite sides of said member.
2. The ink container of claim 1, wherein said raised portions are substantially V-shaped.
3. The ink container of claim 1, further comprising a cap member having a recess for receiving said outlet passage.
4. The ink container of claim 3, wherein said outlet passage comprises a rib for contacting and thermally bonding said cap to said outlet passage.
5. The ink container of claim 3, wherein said seal is adapted to be compressed between said cap and said outlet passage.
6. The ink container of claim 3, wherein said cap is formed of plastic.
7. The ink container of claim 1, wherein said seal member is formed of a rubber.
8. The ink container of claim 1, wherein the seal member is formed of a polyvinyl chloride (PVC).
9. The ink container of claim 1 wherein said seal member is formed of a thermoplastic rubber.

10. The ink container of claim 1 wherein said seal member is formed of silicone rubber.

11. The ink container of claim 1, wherein said seal member comprises a generally tube-shaped portion which engages an inner wall of said outlet passage.

12. The ink container of claim 1 wherein the seal member includes a thin membrane extending across a first surface of said seal member.

13. The ink container of claim 1 wherein the seal member has a substantially disk shape.

14. The ink container of claim 8 wherein the outlet passage includes a counterbore at an outer terminal end that receives the disk-shaped seal member therein.

15. The ink container of claim 1 wherein the seal member includes a thin membrane adapted to be selectively pierced by an associated needle of an associated printer.

16. A method of sealing an outlet port of an ink container, comprising:

inserting a seal member into a counterbore of said outlet port formed at an outer portion of said outlet port;

placing a cap member over said outer portion of said outlet port;

compressing said seal member between said cap and outlet port; and

welding said cap member to said outlet port.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein said seal member comprises ridges formed on a first and second surface of said seal member, wherein said ridges are contacted by said cap member and said outlet port during compression.

18. The method of claim 16, wherein said seal member raised portions comprise substantially V-shaped ridges.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein said outlet passage comprises a rib on an outer surface thereof which contacts said cap and is melted via welding until substantially flush with said outer surface.

20. The method of claim 16, wherein said seal member comprises a generally tube-shaped portion which engages an inner wall of said outlet passage.

21. The method of claim 16, wherein the seal member includes a thin membrane extending across a first surface of said seal member.

22. The method of claim 16, wherein the seal member has a substantially disk shape.

23. A seal member for an ink container, comprising:
a first surface;
a second surface located on an opposite side of said seal member from said first surface;
a wall extending between said first and second surfaces, said wall having a tapered surface extending between said first surface and said second surface, wherein said second surface has a larger diameter than said first surface;
wherein said first and second surfaces each comprises a raised portion extending across said surfaces.

24. The said member of claim 23, wherein said raised portions are substantially V-shaped.

25. The seal member of claim 23, wherein said seal member is formed of a rubber.

26. The seal member of claim 23, wherein the seal member is formed of a polyvinyl chloride (PVC).

27. The seal member of claim 23 wherein said seal member is formed of a thermoplastic rubber.

28. The seal member of claim 23 wherein the seal member includes a thin membrane extending across a first surface of said seal member.

29. The seal member of claim 23 wherein the seal member has a substantially disk shape.